JL: 11/28/76

Attached memo on yesterday's meeting with Jean-Michel Charlier

The form represents my feeling after he left, continuing this mornin g and Lil's. I asked her this morning.

It is encouraging. He also did react favorably to my insistence on fact rather than conjecture, to my addressing of conjecture and how little it can really mean if one has a responsible end product in mind (I did not once mention this), and to the specifics I used in responding.

There is, we think, a good possibility of something worthwhile emerging from this if he controls what will emerge. I think he is now thinking in terms of the immediate assignment only. It is my intent when he returned to try to broaden the focus of his mind's lense and his project's cameras.

I have already arranged for him to be able to have as good a Zapruder print as there is outside of two other than the original. I already have one of these two. I have arranged the financial details that make them easily within his reach while under conditions that are fair to the others involved. The actual costs are in his terms quite nominal, so I believe there can be more than the costs in cash alone in what he can do easily.

However, it is the clear impression Lil and I reached independently that lead me to make my skimpy notes more in the form of a journal entry than bare-boned notes. I omitted much. We did not until 11:30, late for him, a stranger in a strange area of a country with which he has only limited familiarity.

Perhaps I have finally met the one who can provide two things together, not one of both only: a willingness to deal with hard fact and regard it as either newsworthy or show-worthy; and an ability to do something with the result of it all.

I am not worried about about his reluctance to disclose his knwoledge of the French spook involvement and am encouraged by his matter-of-fact latter admission of personal knowledge and conversation with Lamarre. I passed that off without sign of recognitition and as completely normal.

I do not know if when he left he had in mind how entirely different than he had expected the evening to be it had been. I think that at some point before he returns he will be aware. He will come to see if by now he has not already that I showed him all the viduals he needs for a spectacular but absolutely solid special that can be sold internatopnally. I am inclined to believe that his abrupt shift in dates, his saying he wanted to see me again in what amounts to no more than after two working days, on the fourth day ahead, represents his recognition of the potential.

If this is true then I think it is premature to assume that he has total control. If he does return to France for only a day or so it seems not unreasonable to believe it might be for conferences on this only, aside from details of what he may have run into elsewhere. He could do this by phone, of course, but he might prefer not mk to and he might have other needs for being there.

I'm conjecturing with guarded optimism but I do feel that there is reason for some optimism.

He took all the books except Oswald in New Orleans with him. He has heard some excerpts from the ecexutive sessions. He kept muttering such words as "incredible." He sees what I'm sure Europe wants, political content that is safe and rational. When we meet again and he has had time to think it through for himself I have in mind making the larger proposal if he does not.

If it turns out to be possible and if it can be done rapidly enough and if it can be used in this country, many ifs, it can have some influence on the Congress and its wrong-headed and wrong-running committee and the disinformation efforts against it. If you think of this you will see that it is no more than I proposed to the committee more than thrree times and ways, the three being twice to Downing, though Feeney and Bud when both asked (Bud twice), and then directly to Sprague. Agreement was meaningless.